Accounting Policies

1. Presentation of Annual Financial Statements

The annual financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (GRAP), issued by the Accounting Standards Board in accordance with Section 122(3) of the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003).

These annual financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis of accounting and are in accordance with historical cost convention as the basis of measurement, unless specified otherwise. They are presented in South African Rand.

Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses were not offset, except where offsetting is either required or permitted by a Standard of GRAP.

A summary of the significant accounting policies, which have been consistently applied in the preparation of these annual financial statements, are disclosed below.

These accounting policies are consistent with the previous period.

1.1 Presentation currency

These annual financial statements are presented in South African Rand, which is the functional currency of the municipality.

1.2 Going concern assumption

These annual financial statements have been prepared based on the expectation that the municipality will continue to operate as a going concern for at least the next 12 months.

1.3 Significant judgements and sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the municipality's accounting policies, which are described below, management is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

These estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The following are the critical judgements and estimations that management have made in the process of applying the municipality’s Accounting Policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in Annual Financial Statements:

Financial assets and liabilities

The classification of financial assets and liabilities, into categories, is based on judgement by management. Accounting Policy 8.1 on Financial Assets Classification and Accounting Policy 8.2 on Financial Liabilities Classification describe the factors and criteria considered by the management of the municipality in the classification of financial assets and liabilities.

In making the above-mentioned judgement, management considered the definition and recognition criteria for the classification of financial instruments as set out in GRAP 104: Financial Instruments.

Accounting Policies

1.3 Significant judgements and sources of estimation uncertainty (continued)

Impairment testing

The Accounting Policy on Impairment of Financial Assets describes the process followed to determine the value by which financial assets should be impaired. In making the estimation of the impairment, the management of the municipality considered the detailed criteria of impairment of financial assets as set out in GRAP 104: Financial Instruments and used its judgement to select a variety of methods and make assumptions that are mainly based on market conditions existing at the end of the reporting period. The management of the municipality is satisfied that the impairment of financial assets recorded during the year is appropriate.

The calculation in respect of the impairment of debtors is based on an assessment of the extent to which debtors have defaulted on payments already due, and an assessment of their ability to make payments based on their creditworthiness. This was performed per service-identifiable categories across all classes of debtors.

Provisions

Provisions were raised and management determined an estimate based on the information available. Additional disclosure of these estimates of provisions are included in note 19 - Provisions.

Changes in the measurement of an existing decommissioning, restoration and similar liability that result from changes in the estimated timing or amount of the outflow of resources embodying economic benefits or service potential required to settle the obligation, or a change in the discount rate, is accounted for as follows:

If the related asset is measured using the cost model:
(a) changes in the liability is added to, or deducted from, the cost of the related asset in the current period.
(b) the amount deducted from the cost of the asset does not exceed its carrying amount. If a decrease in the liability exceeds the carrying amount of the asset, the excess is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit.
(c) if the adjustment results in an addition to the cost of an asset, the entity consider whether this is an indication that the new carrying amount of the asset may not be fully recoverable. If there is such an indication, the entity test the asset for impairment by estimating its recoverable amount or recoverable service amount, and account for any impairment loss, in accordance with the accounting policy on impairment of assets.

The adjusted depreciable amount of the asset is depreciated over its useful life. Therefore, once the related asset has reached the end of its useful life, all subsequent changes in the liability is recognised in surplus or deficit as they occur. This applies under both the cost model and the revaluation model.

The periodic unwinding of the discount is recognised in surplus or deficit as a finance cost as it occurs.

The Municipality has an obligation to rehabilitate its landfill sites in terms of its license stipulations. Provision is made for this obligation based on the net present value of cost. The cost factors as determined have been applied and projected at an inflation rate of 6% (2016: 6%) and discounted to the present value at the average long-term treasury bond rate which were adjusted for specific risk factors as stated below.

Rehabilitation on the Zastron site are to commence in 2017 and as a result the time value of money will have no effect and the provision will thus not be discounted.

	Matlakeng	Rouxville	Smithfield
Long term treasury bond rate	7.77 %	9.41 %	9.41 %
Adjusted for:			
Landfill site not fenced off	0.10 %	0.10 %	0.10 %
No weight bridge/ track kept of vehicles entering the site	0.35 %	0.35 %	0.35 %
No control over waste types	0.50 %	0.50 %	0.50 %
No traces of medical waste identified	(0.45)%	(0.45)%	(0.45)%
Surrounded by farms	0.25 %	0.25 %	0.25 %
	8.52 %	10.16 %	10.16 %

Accounting Policies

1.3 Significant judgements and sources of estimation uncertainty (continued)

Water inventory

The estimation of the water stock in the reservoirs is based on the measurement of water via manual level meters, where the level indicates the depth of the water in the reservoir, which is then converted into volumes based on the total capacity of the relevant reservoir.

Defined Benefit Plan Liabilities

As described in the Accounting Policy on Employee Benefits, the municipality obtains actuarial valuations of its defined benefit plan liabilities. The defined benefit obligations of the municipality that were identified are Post-retirement Health Benefit Obligations and Long-service Awards. The estimated liabilities are recorded in accordance with the requirements of GRAP 25. Details of the liabilities and the key assumptions made by the actuaries in estimating the liabilities are provided in Note 9 to the Annual Financial Statements.

Budget information

Deviations between budget and actual amounts are regarded as material differences when a 10% deviation exists. All material differences are explained in the notes to the annual financial statements.

Revenue Recognition

The Accounting Policy on Revenue from Exchange Transactions and the Accounting on Revenue from Non-exchange Transactions describes the conditions under which revenue will be recorded by the management of the municipality.

In making their judgement, the management considered the detailed criteria for the recognition of revenue as set out in GRAP 9: Revenue from Exchange Transactions and GRAP 23: Revenue from Non-Exchange transactions. In particular, whether the municipality, when goods are sold, had transferred to the buyer the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods and when services is rendered, whether the service has been rendered. Also of importance is the estimation process involved in initially measuring revenue at the fair value thereof. The management of the municipality is satisfied that recognition of the revenue in the current year is appropriate.

Useful lives of Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible assets

As described in the Accounting Policies relating to assets, the municipality depreciates / amortises its property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets over the estimated useful lives of the assets, taking into account the residual values of the assets at the end of their useful lives, which is determined when the assets are available for use. The useful lives of assets are based on management's estimation. Management considered the impact of technology, availability of capital funding, service requirements and required return on assets in order to determine the optimum useful life expectation, where appropriate. The estimation of residual values of assets is based on management's judgement as to whether the assets will be sold or used to the end of their useful lives, and in what condition they will be at that time.

Impairment: Write down of Property, Plant and Equipment, Intangible assets, Heritage assets and Inventory

The Accounting Policy on PPE - Impairment of assets and the Accounting Policy on Intangible assets - Subsequent Measurement, Amortisation and Impairment and the Accounting Policy pertaining to Inventory - Subsequent measurement describes the conditions under which non-financial assets are tested for potential impairment losses by the management of the municipality. Significant estimates and judgements are made relating to PPE impairment testing, Intangible assets impairment testing and write down of Inventories to the lowest of Cost and Net Realisable Values (NRV).

In making the above-mentioned estimates and judgement, management considered the subsequent measurement criteria and indicators of potential impairment losses as set out in GRAP 21: Impairment of Cash generating Assets and GRAP 26: Impairment of non-Cash generating Assets. In particular, the calculation of the recoverable service amount for PPE and intangible assets and the NRV for inventories involves significant judgment by management.

Accounting Policies

1.4 Biological assets that form part of an agricultural activity

A biological asset is described as a living animal or plant which is under the control of the Municipality wherefore the fair value or cost can be determined reliably.

The entity recognises a biological assets that form part of an agricultural activity or agricultural produce when, and only when:

- the entity controls the asset as a result of past events;
- it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the asset will flow to the municipality; and
- the fair value or cost of the asset can be measured reliably.

Biological assets that form part of an agricultural activity are measured at their fair value less costs to sell.

The fair value of livestock is determined based on market prices of livestock of similar age, breed, and genetic merit.

A gain or loss arising on initial recognition of biological assets that form part of an agricultural activity or agricultural produce at fair value less costs to sell and from a change in fair value less costs to sell of a biological assets that form part of an agricultural activity is included in surplus or deficit for the period in which it arises.

1.5 Investment property

Investment property includes property (land or a building, or part of a building, or both land or buildings held under a finance lease) held to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation, rather than held to meet service delivery objectives, the production or supply of goods or services, or the sale of an asset in the ordinary course of operations.

At initial recognition, the municipality measures investment property at cost including transaction costs once it meets the definition of investment property. However, where an investment property was acquired through a non-exchange transaction (i.e. where it acquired the investment property for no or a nominal value), its cost is its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

The cost of self-constructed investment property is the cost at date of completion.

Based on management's judgement, the following criteria have been applied to distinguish investment properties from owner occupied property or property held for resale:

- All properties held to earn market-related rentals or for capital appreciation or both and that are not used for administrative purposes and that will not be sold within the next 12 months are classified as Investment Properties;
- Land held for a currently undetermined future use. (If the Municipality has not determined that it will use the land as owner-occupied property or for short-term sale in the ordinary course of business, the land is regarded as held for capital appreciation);
- A building owned by the entity (or held by the entity under a finance lease) and leased out under one or more operating leases (this will include the property portfolio rented out by the Housing Board on a commercial basis on behalf of the municipality); and
- A building that is vacant but is held to be leased out under one or more operating leases on a commercial basis to external parties.

The following assets do not fall in the ambit of Investment Property and shall be classified as Property, Plant and Equipment, Inventory or Non-Current Assets Held for Sale, as appropriate:

- Property intended for sale in the ordinary course of operations or in the process of construction or development for such sale;
- Property being constructed or developed on behalf of third parties;
- Owner-occupied property, including (among other things) property held for future use as owner-occupied property, property held for future development and subsequent use as owner-occupied property, property occupied by employees such as housing for personnel (whether or not the employees pay rent at market rates) and owner-occupied property awaiting disposal;
- Property that is being constructed or developed for future use as investment property;
- Property that is leased to another entity under a finance lease;
- Property held to provide a social service and which also generates cash inflows, e.g. property rented out below market rental to sporting bodies, schools, low income families, etc; and
- Property held for strategic purposes or service delivery.

Accounting Policies

1.5 Investment property (continued)

Fair value

Subsequent to initial measurement investment property is measured at fair value.

The fair value of investment property reflects market conditions at the reporting date.

A gain or loss arising from a change in fair value is included in net surplus or deficit for the period in which it arises.

If the entity determines that the fair value of an investment property under construction is not reliably determinable but expects the fair value of the property to be reliably measurable when construction is complete, it measures that investment property under construction at cost until either its fair value becomes reliably determinable or construction is completed (whichever is earlier). If the entity determines that the fair value of an investment property (other than an investment property under construction) is not reliably determinable on a continuing basis, the entity measures that investment property using the cost model (as per the accounting policy on Property, plant and equipment). The residual value of the investment property is then assumed to be zero. The entity applies the cost model (as per the accounting policy on Property, plant and equipment) until disposal of the investment property.

Once the entity becomes able to measure reliably the fair value of an investment property under construction that has previously been measured at cost, it measures that property at its fair value. Once construction of that property is complete, it is presumed that fair value can be measured reliably. If this is not the case, the property is accounted for using the cost model in accordance with the accounting policy on Property, plant and equipment.

Investment property is derecognised on disposal or when the investment property is permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its disposal.

1.6 Property, plant and equipment

Initial Recognition

Property, plant and equipment are tangible non-current assets (including infrastructure assets) that are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, rental to others, or for administrative purposes, and are expected to be used during more than one period.

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset when:

- it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the municipality; and
- the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Property, plant and equipment is initially measured at cost.

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is the purchase price and other costs attributable to bring the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management. Trade discounts and rebates are deducted in arriving at the cost.

Where an asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, its cost is its fair value as at date of acquisition.

Where an item of property, plant and equipment is acquired in exchange for a non-monetary asset or monetary assets, or a combination of monetary and non-monetary assets, the asset acquired is initially measured at fair value (the cost). If the acquired item's fair value was not determinable, it's deemed cost is the carrying amount of the asset(s) given up.

When significant components of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items (major components) of property, plant and equipment.

Costs include costs incurred initially to acquire or construct an item of property, plant and equipment and costs incurred subsequently to add to, replace part of, or service it. If a replacement cost is recognised in the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment, the carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised.

The initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located is also included in the cost of property, plant and equipment, where the entity is obligated to incur such expenditure, and where the obligation arises as a result of acquiring the asset or using it for purposes other than the production of inventories.

1.6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Recognition of costs in the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment ceases when the item is in the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Items such as spare parts, standby equipment and servicing equipment are recognised when they meet the definition of property, plant and equipment.

Major inspection costs which are a condition of continuing use of an item of property, plant and equipment and which meet the recognition criteria above are included as a replacement in the cost of the item of property, plant and equipment. Any remaining inspection costs from the previous inspection are derecognised.

Property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

Subsequent Measurement

Subsequent expenditure relating to property, plant and equipment is capitalised if it is probable that future economic benefits or potential service delivery associated with the subsequent expenditure will flow to the entity and the cost of the subsequent expenditure can be reliably measured. Subsequent expenditure incurred on an asset is only capitalised when it increases the capacity or future economic benefits associated with the asset. Where the municipality replaces parts of an asset, it derecognises the part of the asset being replaced and capitalises the new component.

Subsequently all property plant and equipment, excluding properties held for transfer, are measured at cost, less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Subsequent to initial recognition infrastructure are carried at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Where items of property, plant and equipment have been impaired, the carrying value is adjusted by the impairment loss, which is recognised as an expense in the period that the impairment is identified except where the impairment reverses a previous revaluation.

Compensation from third parties for items of property, plant and equipment that were impaired, lost or given up is included in surplus or deficit when the compensation becomes receivable.

Depreciation

Land is not depreciated as it is regarded as having an unlimited life. Depreciation on assets other than land is calculated on cost, using the straight line method, to allocate their cost or revalued amounts to their residual values over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The depreciation method used reflects the pattern in which the asset's future economic benefits or service potential are expected to be consumed by the municipality. Each part of an item of property, plant and equipment with a cost that is significant in relation to the total cost of the item shall be depreciated separately. The depreciation rates are based on the following estimated useful lives.

Depreciation only commences when the asset is available for use, unless stated otherwise.

The useful lives of items of property, plant and equipment have been assessed as follows:

Item	Depreciation method	Average useful life
Buildings	Straight line	20 - 100 years
Motor vehicles	Straight line	7 - 10 years
Office equipment	Straight line	4 - -7 years
Furniture and fittings	Straight line	4 - 7 years
Infrastructure - Electricity	Straight line	45 - 50 years
• Mini-sub	Straight line	45 years
• MV Power Transformer	Straight line	45 years
• MV Switch gear - circuit breaker	Straight line	45 years
• MV Switch gear - isolating link	Straight line	30 years
• Circuit breaker panel	Straight line	50 years
• Battery charger	Straigth line	45 years

1.6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

Infrastructure - Roads and paving	Straight line	10 - 50 years
• Road surface - Gravel	Straight line	10 years
• Road structural layer (access)	Straight line	25 - 40 years
• Road surface - Bituminous	Straight line	30 - 40 years
• Road structural layer - Collector	Straight line	50 years
• Road structural layer - Distributor	Straight line	30 years
• Road surface - Concrete block	Straight line	30 years
Water	Straight line	20 - 80 years
Sewerage	Straight line	40 - 80 years
Landfill Sites	Straight line	5 - 100 years
Community	Straight line	5 - 80 years
• Recreational facilities	Straight line	15 - 80 years
• Security	Straight Line	5 years
Bins and containers	Straight line	4 years
Specialised property, plant and equipment	Straight line	10 years

The residual value and the useful life and depreciation method of each asset are reviewed at the end of each reporting date. If the expectations differ from previous estimates, the change is accounted for as a change in accounting estimate.

Reviewing the useful life of an asset on an annual basis does not require the entity to amend the previous estimate unless expectations differ from the previous estimate.

Incomplete Construction Work

Incomplete construction work is stated at historical cost. Depreciation only commences when the asset is available for use.

Finance Leases

Assets capitalised under finance leases are depreciated over their expected useful lives on the same basis as PPE controlled by the entity, or where shorter, the term of the relevant lease if there is no reasonable certainty that the municipality will obtain ownership by the end of the lease term.

Land

Land is not depreciated as it is deemed to have an indefinite useful life.

Infrastructure Assets

Infrastructure Assets are any assets that are part of a network of similar assets. Infrastructure assets are shown at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment. Infrastructure assets are treated similarly to all other assets of the municipality in terms of the asset management policy.

Derecognition of property, plant and equipment

The carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised on disposal, or when no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its use or disposal.

The gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of property, plant and equipment is included in surplus or deficit when the item is derecognised.

Gains or losses are calculated as the difference between the carrying value of assets (cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses) and the disposal proceeds is included in the Statement of Financial Performance as a gain or loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment.

Site restoration and dismantling cost

The entity has an obligation to dismantle, remove and restore items of property, plant and equipment. Such obligations are referred to as 'decomissioning, restoration and similar liabilities'. The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment includes the initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located and the obligation which an entity incurs either when the item is acquired or as a consequence of having used the item during a particular period for purposes other than to produce inventories during that period.

Accounting Policies

1.6 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

if the related asset is measured using the cost model:

(a) subject to (b), changes in the liability are added to, or deducted from the cost of the related asset in the current period;
(b) if a decrease in the liability exceeds the carrying amount of the asset, the excess is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit; and

(c) if the adjustment results in an addition to the cost of an asset, the entity considers whether this is an indication that the new carrying amount of the asset may not be fully recoverable. If it is such an indication, the asset is tested for impairment by estimating its recoverable amount or recoverable service amount, and any impairment loss is recognised in accordance with the accounting policy on impairment of cash-generating assets and/or impairment of non-cash-generating assets.

1.7 Intangible assets

Initial Recognition

Identifiable non–monetary assets without physical substance are classified and recognised as intangible assets. The municipality recognises an intangible asset in its Statement of Financial Position only when it is probable that the expected future economic benefits or service potential that are attributable to the asset will flow to the municipality and the cost or fair value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Internally generated intangible assets are subject to strict recognition criteria before they are capitalised. Research expenditure is recognised as an expense is incurred. Costs incurred on development projects (relating to the design and testing of new or improved products) are recognised as intangible assets when the following criteria are fulfilled:
-it is technically feasible to complete the intangible asset so that it will be available for use;
-management intends to complete the intangible asset and use or sell it;
-it can be demonstrated how the intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefits;
-adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the intangible asset are available; and
-the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during its development can be reliably measured.

Other development expenditures that do not meet these criteria are recognised as an expense as incurred. Development costs previously recognised as an expense are not recognised as an asset in a subsequent period. Capitalised development costs are recorded as intangible assets and amortised from the point at which the asset is ready for use on a straight-line basis over its useful life, not exceeding five years. Development assets are tested for impairment annually, in accordance with GRAP 21 / GRAP 26.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost. The cost of an intangible asset is the purchase price and other costs attributable to bring the intangible asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the municipality, or where an intangible asset is acquired at no cost, or for a nominal cost, the cost shall be its fair value as at the date of acquisition. Trade discounts and rebates are deducted in arriving at the cost. Intangible assets acquired separately or internally generated are reported at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. The cost of an intangible asset acquired in exchange for a non-monetary assets or monetary assets, or a combination of monetary and non-monetary assets is measured at the fair value of the asset given up, unless the fair value of the asset received is more clearly evident. If the acquired item could not be measured at its fair value, its cost is measured at the carrying amount of the asset given up. If the acquired item's fair value was not determinable, it's deemed cost is the carrying amount of the asset(s) given up.

Subsequent Measurement, Amortisation and Impairment

After initial recognition, an intangible asset is carried at its cost less any accumulated amortisation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Expenditure on an intangible item that was initially recognised as an expense shall not be recognised as part of the cost of an intangible asset at a later date.

In terms of GRAP 102, intangible assets are distinguished between internally generated intangible assets and other intangible assets. It is further distinguished between indefinite or finite useful lives. Amortisation is charged on a straight-line basis over the intangible assets' useful lives (when the intangible asset is available for use), which are estimated to be between 3 to 5 years, the residual value of assets with finite useful lives is zero, unless an active market exists. Where intangible assets are deemed to have an indefinite useful life, such intangible assets are not amortised, however such intangible assets are subject to an annual impairment test.

Accounting Policies

1.7 Intangible assets (continued)

Intangible assets are annually tested for impairment, including intangible assets not yet available for use. Where items of intangible assets have been impaired, the carrying value is adjusted by the impairment loss, which is recognised as an expense in the period that the impairment is identified except where the impairment reverses a previous revaluation. The impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the recoverable amount.

The estimated useful life, residual values and amortisation method are reviewed annually at the end of the financial year. Any adjustments arising from the annual review are applied prospectively as a change in accounting estimate in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Derecognition

Intangible assets are derecognised when the asset is disposed of or when there are no further economic benefits or service potential expected from the use of the asset. The gain or loss arising on the disposal or retirement of an intangible asset is determined as the difference between the net disposals proceeds and the carrying value and is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

1.8 Heritage assets

A heritage asset is defined as an asset that has a cultural, environmental, historical, natural, scientific, technological or artistic significance, and is held and preserved indefinitely for the benefit of present and future generations.

Initial Recognition

The cost of an item of heritage assets is recognised as an asset if, and only if it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the municipality, and if the cost or fair value of the item can be measured reliably.

Heritage assets are initially recognised at cost on its acquisition date or in the case of assets acquired by grant or donation, deemed cost, being the fair value of the asset on initial recognition. The cost of an item of heritage asset is the purchase price and other costs attributable to bring the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the municipality. Trade discounts and rebates are deducted in arriving at the cost. The cost also includes the necessary costs of dismantling and removing the asset and restoring the site on which it is located.

Where an asset is acquired by the municipality for no or nominal consideration (i.e. a non-exchange transaction), the cost is deemed to be equal to the fair value of that asset on the date acquired.

The cost of an item of heritage assets acquired in exchange for a non-monetary assets or monetary assets, or a combination of monetary and non-monetary assets is measured at the fair value of the asset given up, unless the fair value of the asset received is more clearly evident. If the acquired item could not be measured at its fair value, its cost is measured at the carrying amount of the asset given up.

Subsequent Measurement

Subsequent expenditure relating to heritage assets is capitalised if it is probable that future economic benefits or potential service delivery associated with the subsequent expenditure will flow to the entity and the cost or fair value of the subsequent expenditure can be reliably measured. Subsequent expenditure incurred on an asset is only capitalised when it increases the capacity or future economic benefits associated with the asset. Where the municipality replaces parts of an asset, it derecognises the part of the asset being replaced and capitalises the new component.

Subsequently all heritage assets are measured at cost, less accumulated impairment losses. Heritage assets are not depreciated.

Accounting Policies

1.8 Heritage assets (continued)
Derecognition of Heritage assets

The carrying amount of an item of heritage assets is derecognised on disposal, or when no future economic benefits or service potential are expected from its use or disposal.

The gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of heritage assets is included in surplus or deficit when the item is derecognised.

Gains or losses are calculated as the difference between the carrying value of assets (cost less accumulated impairment losses) and the disposal proceeds is included in the Statement of Financial Performance as a gain or loss on disposal of heritage assets.

1.9 Financial instruments

The municipality has various types of financial instruments and these can be broadly categorised as either financial assets, financial liabilities or residual interests in accordance with the substance of the contractual agreement . The municipality only recognises a financial instrument when it becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Initial Recognition

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised on the entity's Statement of Financial Position when the entity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The Entity does not offset a financial asset and a financial liability unless a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts currently exist; and the entity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Fair value model and assumptions

The fair values of financial instruments are determined as follows:

The fair values of quoted investments are based on current bid prices.

If the market for a financial asset is not active (and for unlisted securities), the company establishes fair value by using valuation techniques. These include the use of recent arm’s length transactions, reference to other instruments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow analysis, and option pricing models making maximum use of market inputs and relying as little as possible on entity-specific inputs.

Amortised Cost

The entity uses an appropriate interest rate, taking into account guidance provided in the standards, and applying professional judgement to the specific circumstances, to discount future cash flows. The entity used the following in arriving at the effective interest rate used:

Consideration 1 - Base rate used as starting point - Prime lending rate
Consideration 2 - Adjustments for industry risk - None
Consideration 3 - Adjustment for entity risk - None

Accounting Policies

1.9 Financial instruments (continued)
Financial Assets - Classification

A financial asset is any asset that is a cash or contractual right to receive cash.

In accordance with GRAP 104 the Financial Assets of the municipality are classified as follows into the three categories allowed by this standard:

Financial asset at amortised cost are non derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are included in current assets, except for maturities greater than 12 months, which are classified as non-current assets. Financial asset at amortised cost are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of the financial asset. After initial recognition Financial Assets are measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method less a provision for impairment.

Financial assets measured at fair value are financial assets that meet either of the following conditions:
(a) derivatives;
(b) combined instruments that are designated at fair value
(c) instruments held for trading.
(d) non-derivative financial assets or financial liabilities with fixed or determinable payments that are designated at fair value at initial recognition; or
(e) financial instruments that do not meet the definition of financial instruments at amortised cost or financial instruments at cost.

Financial assets measured at cost are investments in residual interests that do not have a quoted market price in an active market, and whose fair value cannot be reliably measured.

The municipality has the following types of financial assets as reflected on the face of the Statement of Financial Position or in the notes thereto:

Type of Financial Asset:	**Classification in terms of GRAP 104**
Short term investment deposits	Financial Asset at amortised cost
Bank balances and cash	Financial Asset at amortised cost
Non-current investments	Financial Asset at fair value
Consumer debtors	Financial Asset at amortised cost
Other debtors	Financial Asset at amortised cost
Traffic Fine Debtors	Financial Asset at cost
Investments in fixed deposits	Financial Asset at amortised cost

Cash includes cash on hand (including petty cash) and cash with banks (including call deposits). Cash equivalents are short-term highly liquid investments, readily convertible into known amounts of cash, that are held with registered banking institutions with maturities of three months or less and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value. For the purposes of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, deposits held on call with banks, net of bank overdrafts. The municipality categorises cash and cash equivalents as financial assets: Financial asset at amortised cost.

Financial liabilities - Classification

Accounting Policies

1.9 Financial instruments (continued)

A financial liability is a contractual obligation to deliver cash or another financial asset to another entity.

There are three main categories of Financial Liabilities, the classification determining how they are measured. Financial liabilities may be measured at:
(i) Financial liabilities measured at fair value or
(ii) Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost
(iii) Financial liabilities measured at cost

The municipality has the following types of financial liabilities as reflected on the face of the Statement of Financial Position or in the notes thereto:

Type of Financial Liability:	**Classification in terms of GRAP 104**
Long-term Liabilities (excluding Centlec Payable)	Financial Liability at cost
Long-term Liabilities (Centlec Payable)	Financial Liability at cost
Other creditors	Financial Liability at amortised cost
Bank overdraft	Financial Liability at amortised cost
Short term loans	Financial Liability at amortised cost
Current portion of long term liabilities	Financial Liability at amortised cost

Financial liabilities that are measured at fair value are financial liabilities that are essentially held for trading (i.e. purchased with the intention to sell or repurchase in the short term; derivatives other than hedging instruments or are part of a portfolio of financial instruments where there is recent actual evidence of short-term profiteering or are derivatives).

Bank overdrafts are recorded based on the facility utilised. Finance charges on bank overdrafts are expensed as incurred.

Initial and subsequent measurement

Financial assets

Financial asset at amortised cost are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of the financial asset. Subsequently, these assets are measured at amortised cost using the Effective Interest Method less any impairment, with interest recognised on an effective yield basis.

Financial Assets measured at fair value are initially measured at fair value plus directly attributable transaction costs. They are subsequently measured at fair value with unrealised gains or losses recognised directly in equity until the investment is derecognised, at which time the cumulative gain or loss recorded in equity is recognised in the statement of financial performance, or determined to be impaired, at which time the cumulative loss recorded in equity is recognised in the statement of financial performance.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities measured at fair value:
Financial liabilities measured at fair value are stated at fair value, with any resulted gain or loss recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost:
Any other financial liabilities are classified as "Other financial liabilities" (All payables, loans and borrowings are classified as other liabilities) and are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs. Trade and other payables, including consumer deposits, interest bearing debt including finance lease liabilities, non-interest bearing debt and bank borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Interest expense is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance by applying the effective interest rate.

Bank borrowings, consisting of interest-bearing short-term bank loans, repayable on demand and overdrafts are recorded at the proceeds received. Finance costs are accounted for using the accrual basis and are added to the carrying amount of the bank borrowing to the extent that they are not settled in the period that they arise.

Prepayments are carried at cost less any accumulated impairment losses.

Impairment of financial assets

Accounting Policies

1.9 Financial instruments (continued)

Financial assets, other than those measured at fair value, are assessed for indicators of impairment at the end of each reporting period. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence of impairment of Financial Assets (such as the probability of insolvency or significant financial difficulties of the debtor). If there is such evidence the recoverable amount is estimated and an impairment loss is recognised in accordance with GRAP 104.

Accounting Policies

1.9 Financial instruments (continued)
Financial assets carried at amortised cost

Accounts receivables encompasses long term debtors, consumer debtors and other debtors.

Initially Accounts Receivable are valued at fair value and subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. An estimate is made for doubtful debt based on past default experience of all outstanding amounts at year-end. Bad debts are written off the year in which they are identified as irrecoverable. Amounts receivable within 12 months from the date of reporting are classified as current.

A provision for impairment of accounts receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the municipality will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables. The provision is made in accordance with GRAP 104 whereby the recoverability of accounts receivable is assessed individually and then collectively after grouping the assets in financial assets with similar credit risk characteristics. The amount of the provision is the difference between the financial asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate. Future cash flows in a group of financial assets that are collectively evaluated for impairment are estimated on the basis of historical loss experience for assets with credit risk characteristics similar to those in the group. Cash flows relating to short-term receivables are not discounted where the effect of discounting is immaterial.

Government accounts are not provided for as such accounts are regarded as receivable.

The carrying amount of the financial asset is reduced by the impairment loss directly for all financial assets carried at amortised cost with the exception of consumer debtors, where the carrying amount is reduced through the use of an allowance account. When a consumer debtor is considered uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against revenue. Changes in the carrying amount of the allowance account are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Impairment of Financial Assets measured at cost

If there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred on an investment in a residual interest that is not measured at fair value because its fair value cannot be measured reliably, the amount of the impairment loss is measured as the difference between the carrying amount of the financial asset and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the current market rate of return for a similar financial asset. Such impairment losses shall not be reversed.

Derecognition of Financial Assets

The municipality derecognises Financial Assets only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or it transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset to another entity, except when Council approves the write-off of Financial Assets due to non recoverability.

If the municipality neither transfers nor retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership and continues to control the transferred asset, the municipality recognises its retained interest in the asset and an associated liability for amounts it may have to pay. If the municipality retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of a transferred financial asset, the municipality continues to recognise the financial asset and also recognises a collateralised borrowing for the proceeds received.

Derecognition of Financial Liabilities

The municipality derecognises Financial Liabilities when, and only when, the municipality's obligations are discharged, cancelled or they expire.

The municipality recognises the difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability (or part of a financial liability) extinguished or transferred to another party and the consideration paid, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Accounting Policies

1.10 Leases

Lease Classification

Leases are classified as finance leases where substantially all the risks and rewards associated with ownership of an asset are transferred to the municipality.

Leases of property, plant and equipment, in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases.

The Municipality as Lessee

Finance leases

Where the Municipality enters into a finance lease, property, plant and equipment or Intangible Assets subject to finance lease agreements are capitalised at amounts equal to the fair value of the leased asset or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments, each determined at the inception of the lease. Corresponding liabilities are included in the Statement of Financial Position as Finance Lease Liabilities. The corresponding liabilities are initially recognised at the inception of the lease and are measured as the sum of the minimum lease payments due in terms of the lease agreement, discounted for the effect of interest. In discounting the lease payments, the municipality uses the interest rate that exactly discounts the lease payments and unguaranteed residual value to the fair value of the asset plus any direct costs incurred. Lease payments are allocated between the lease finance cost and the capital repayment using the effective interest rate method. Lease finance costs are expensed when incurred.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the leased assets are accounted for in accordance with the stated accounting policies applicable to property, plant, equipment or intangibles. The lease liability is reduced by the lease payments, which are allocated between the lease finance cost and the capital repayment using the effective interest rate method. Lease finance costs are expensed when incurred. The accounting policies relating to derecognition of financial instruments are applied to lease payables. The lease asset is depreciated over the shorter of the asset's useful life or the lease term.

Operating leases

The municipality recognises operating lease rentals as an expense in the statement of financial performance on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease. The difference between the amounts recognised as an expense and the contractual payments are recognised as an operating lease asset or liability.

In the event that lease incentives are received to enter into operating leases, such incentives are recognised as a liability. The aggregate benefit of incentives is recognised as a reduction of rental expense on a straight-line basis, except where another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the leased asset are consumed.

The Municipality as Lessor

Amounts due from lessees under finance leases or instalment sale agreements are recorded as receivables at the amount of the Municipality’s net investment in the leases. Finance lease or instalment sale income is allocated to accounting periods so as to reflect a constant periodic rate of return on the Municipality’s net investment outstanding in respect of the leases or instalment sale agreements.

Operating lease rental income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

Determining whether an arrangement contains a lease

At inception of an arrangement, the Municipality determines whether such an arrangement is or contains a lease. A specific asset is the subject of a lease if fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of that specified asset. An arrangement conveys the right to use the asset if the arrangement conveys to the Municipality the right to control the use of the underlying asset. At inception or upon reassessment of the arrangement, the Municipality separates payments and other consideration required by such an arrangement into those for the lease and those for other elements on the basis of their relative fair values. If the Municipality concludes for a finance lease that it is impracticable to separate the payments reliably, an asset and a liability are recognised at an amount equal to the fair value of the underlying asset. Subsequently the liability is reduced as payments are made and an imputed finance charge on the liability is recognised using the Municipality’s incremental borrowing rate.

Accounting Policies

1.11 Inventories

Initial Recognition

Inventories comprise current assets held for sale, current assets for consumption or distribution during the ordinary course of business. Inventories are initially recognised at cost. Cost generally refers to the purchase price, plus taxes, transport costs and any other costs in bringing the inventories to their current location and condition. Where inventory is manufactured, constructed or produced, the cost includes the cost of labour, materials and overheads used during the manufacturing process.

Where inventory is acquired by the municipality for no or nominal consideration (i.e. a non-exchange transaction), the cost is deemed to be equal to the fair value of the item on the date acquired.

Direct costs relating to properties that will be sold as inventory are accumulated for each separately identifiable development. Costs also include a proportion of overhead costs.

Subsequent Measurement

Consumable stores, raw materials, work-in-progress and finished goods

Consumable stores are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value (net amount that an entity expects to realise from the sale on inventory in the ordinary course of business). If inventories are to be distributed at no charge or for a nominal charge they are valued at the lower of cost and current replacement cost.

Water inventory

Water is regarded as inventory when the municipality purchases water in bulk with the intention to resell it to the consumers or to use it internally, or where the municipality has incurred purification costs on water obtained from natural resources (rain, rivers, springs, boreholes etc.). However, water in dams, that are filled by natural resources and that has not yet been treated, and is under the control of the municipality but can not be measured reliably as there is no cost attached to the water, and it is therefore not recognised in the statement of financial position.

The basis of determining the cost of water purchased and not yet sold at statement of financial position date comprises all costs of purchase, cost of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the inventory to its present location and condition, net of trade discounts and rebates.

Water and purified effluent are valued by using the weighted average method, at the lowest of purified cost and net realisable value, insofar as it is stored and controlled in reservoirs at year-end.

Unsold properties

Unsold properties are measured at the lower of cost and the current replacement value as determined at year end.

Redundant and slow-moving inventories

Redundant and slow-moving inventories are identified and written down from cost to net realisable value with regard to their estimated economic or realisable values and sold by public auction. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less applicable variable selling expenses. Differences arising on the measurement of such inventory at the lower of cost and net realisable value are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance in the year in which they arise. The amount of any reversal of any write-down of inventories arising from an increase in net realisable value or current replacement cost is recognised as a reduction in the amount of inventories recognised as an expense in the period in which the reversal occurs.

The carrying amount of inventories is recognised as an expense in the period that the inventory was sold, distributed, written off or consumed, unless that cost qualifies for capitalisation to the cost of another asset.

Accounting Policies

1.12 Impairment of cash-generating assets

The entity classifies all assets held with the primary objective of generating a commercial return as cash-generating assets. All other assets are classified as non-cash-generating assets.

Impairment of Cash generating assets

The municipality assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the municipality estimates the recoverable amount of the individual asset.

If there is any indication that an asset may be impaired, the recoverable amount is estimated for the individual asset. If it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of the individual asset, the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs is determined.

The best evidence of fair value less cost to sell is the price in a binding sale agreement in an arms length transaction, adjusted for the incremental cost that would be directly attributable to the disposal of the asset.

The recoverable amount of an asset or a cash-generating unit is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

If the recoverable amount of an asset is less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. That reduction is an impairment loss.

An impairment loss of assets carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation or amortisation is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit.

An impairment of assets carried at revalued amount reduces the revaluation surplus for that asset. The decrease shall be debited directly to a revaluation surplus to the extent of any credit balance existing in the revaluation surplus in respect of that asset.

An impairment loss is recognised for cash-generating units if the recoverable amount of the unit is less than the carrying amount of the unit. The impairment loss is allocated to reduce the carrying amount of the assets of the unit as follows:
- to the assets of the unit, pro rata on the basis of the carrying amount of each asset in the unit.

The municipality assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that an impairment loss recognised in prior periods for assets may no longer exist or may have decreased. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amounts of those assets are estimated.

The increased carrying amount of an asset attributable to a reversal of an impairment loss does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior periods.

A reversal of an impairment loss of assets carried at cost less accumulated depreciation or amortisation is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit.

Accounting Policies

1.13 Impairment of non-cash-generating assets

The municipality assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. If any such indication exists, the municipality estimates the recoverable service amount of the asset.

If there is any indication that an asset may be impaired, the recoverable service amount is estimated for the individual asset. If it is not possible to estimate the recoverable service amount of the individual asset, the recoverable service amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs is determined.

The recoverable service amount is the higher of a non-cash generating asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. The value in use for a non-cash generating asset is the present value of the asset's remaining service potential.

If the recoverable service amount of an asset is less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable service amount. That reduction is an impairment loss.

An impairment loss of assets carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation or amortisation is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit. Any impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation decrease.

An impairment loss is recognised for non cash-generating units if the recoverable service amount of the unit is less than the carrying amount of the unit. The impairment loss is allocated to reduce the carrying amount of the assets of the unit as follows:
- to the assets of the unit, pro rata on the basis of the carrying amount of each asset in the unit.

A municipality assesses at each reporting date whether there is any indication that an impairment loss recognised in prior periods for assets may no longer exist or may have decreased. If any such indication exists, the recoverable service amounts of those assets are estimated.

The increased carrying amount of an asset attributable to a reversal of an impairment loss does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior periods.

A reversal of an impairment loss of assets carried at cost less accumulated depreciation or amortisation is recognised immediately in surplus or deficit. Any reversal of an impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation increase.

1.14 Employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits

Remuneration to employees is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance as the services are rendered, except for non-accumulating benefits, which are only recognised when the specific event occurs.

The municipality treats its provision for leave pay as an accrual.

The costs of all short-term employee benefits such as leave pay, are recognised during the period in which the employee renders the related service. The liability for leave pay is based on the total accrued leave days at year end and is shown as a creditor in the Statement of Financial Position. The municipality recognises the expected cost of performance bonuses only when the municipality has a present legal or constructive obligation to make such payment and a reliable estimate can be made.

Post employment benefits

The municipality provides retirement benefits for its employees and councillors, and has both defined benefit and defined contribution post employment plans.

Defined contribution plans

A defined contribution plan is a plan under which the municipality pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. The municipality has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to service in the current or prior periods.

The municipality's contributions to the defined contribution funds are established in terms of the rules governing those plans. Contributions are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance in the period in which the service is rendered by the relevant employees. The municipality has no further payment obligations once the contributions have been paid. The contributions are recognised as employee benefit expense when they are due. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Accounting Policies

1.14 Employee benefits (continued)

Defined benefit plans

A defined benefit plan is a post- employment benefit plan other than a defined contribution plan.

Post-retirement Health Care Benefits:

The municipality has an obligation to provide Post-retirement Health Care Benefits to certain of its retirees. According to the rules of the Medical Aid Funds, with which the municipality is associated, a member (who is on the current Conditions of Service), on retirement, is entitled to remain a continued member of the Medical Aid Fund, in which case the municipality is liable for a certain portion of the medical aid membership fee.

The defined benefit liability is the aggregate of the present value of the defined benefit obligation and unrecognised actuarial gains and losses, reduced by unrecognised past service costs. The plan is unfunded. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is calculated using the projected unit credit method, incorporating actuarial assumptions and a discount rate based on the government bond rate. Valuations of these obligations are carried out every year by independent qualified actuaries.

Actuarial gains or losses recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Past-service costs are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Long-service Allowance

The municipality has an obligation to provide Long-service Allowance Benefits to all of its employees. According to the rules of the Long-service Allowance Scheme, which the municipality instituted and operates, an employee (who is on the current Conditions of Service), is entitled to a cash allowance, calculated in terms of the rules of the scheme, after every 5 years of continued service. The municipality's liability is based on an actuarial valuation. The projected unit credit method has been used to value the liabilities. Actuarial gains and losses on the long-term incentives are accounted for through the statement of financial performance.

Provincially-administered Defined Benefit Plans

The municipality contributes to various National- and Provincial-administered Defined Benefit Plans on behalf of its qualifying employees. These funds are multi-employer funds. The contributions to fund obligations for the payment of retirement benefits are charged against revenue in the year they become payable. These defined benefit funds are actuarially valued triennially on the Projected Unit Credit Method basis. Deficits are recovered through lump sum payments or increased future contributions on a proportional basis from all participating municipalities.

Defined benefit pension plans

The municipality has an obligation to provide Post-retirement pension Benefits to certain of its retirees. Pension contributions in respect of employees who were not members of a pension fund are recognised as an expense when incurred. Staff provident funds are maintained to accommodate personnel who, due to age, cannot join or be part of the various pension funds. The Entity contributes monthly to the funds.

The liability recognised in the balance sheet in respect of defined benefit pension plans is the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period less the fair value of plan assets, together with adjustments for unrecognised past-service costs. The defined benefit obligation is calculated annually by independent actuaries using the projected unit credit method. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is determined by discounting the estimated future cash outflows using interest rates of high-quality corporate bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid, and that have terms to maturity approximating to the terms of the related pension liability.

Actuarial gains or losses are accounted for using the "corridor method". Actuarial gains and losses are eligible for recognition in the Statement of Financial Performance to the extent that they exceed 10 per cent of the present value of the gross defined benefit obligations in the scheme at the end of the previous reporting period. Actuarial gains and losses exceeding 10 per cent are spread over the expected average remaining working lives of the employees participating in the scheme.

Past-service costs are recognised immediately in income, unless the changes to the pension plan are conditional on the employees remaining in service for a specified period of time (the vesting period). In this case, the past-service costs are amortised on a straight-line basis over the vesting period.

Accounting Policies

1.15 Provisions and contingencies

Provisions

Provisions for environmental restoration, rehabilitation, restructuring costs and legal claims are recognised when the municipality has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits or service potential will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the obligation.

The best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation is the amount that an entity would rationally pay to settle the obligation at the reporting date or to transfer it to a third party at that time and are determined by the judgment of the management of the entity, supplemented by experience of similar transactions and, in some cases, reports from independent experts. The evidence considered includes any additional evidence provided by events after the reporting date. Uncertainties surrounding the amount to be recognised as a provision are dealt with by various means according to the circumstances, Where the provision being measured involves a large population of items, the obligation is estimated by weighting all possible outcomes by their associated probabilities.

Future events that may affect the amount required to settle an obligation are reflected in the amount of a provision where there is sufficient objective evidence that they will occur. Gains from the expected disposal of assets are not taken into account in measuring a provision. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses. The present obligation under an onerous contract is recognised and measured as a provision. An onerous contract is a contract in which the unavoidable costs of meeting the obligations under the contract exceed the economic benefits expected to be received under it. The unavoidable costs under a contract reflect the least net cost of exiting from the contract, which is the lower of the cost of fulfilling it and any compensation or penalties arising from failure to fulfil it - this unavoidable cost resulting from the contract is the amount of the provision to be recognised.

Provisions are reviewed at reporting date and the amount of a provision is the present value of the expenditure expected to be required to settle the obligation. When the effect of discounting is material, provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows that reflect current market assessments of the time value of money. The impact of the periodic unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance as a finance cost as it occurs.

Contingent liabilities

Contingent liabilities represent a possible obligation that arises from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by an occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not fully within the control of the entity.
A contingent liability can also arise as a result of a present obligation that arises from past events but which is not recognised as a liability either because it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

Contingent assets

Contingent assets represent possible assets that arise from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by an occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the entity.

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised. Contingencies are disclosed in the notes to the annual financial statements.

Accounting Policies

1.16 Commitments

Items are classified as commitments where the Municipality commits itself to future transactions that will normally result in the outflow of resources.

Capital commitments are not recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability but are included in the disclosure notes in the following cases:
- Approved and contracted commitments, where the expenditure has been approved and the contract has been awarded at the reporting date, where disclosure is required by a specific standard of GRAP.
- Approved but not yet contracted commitments, where the expenditure has been approved and the contract has yet to be awarded or is awaiting finalisation at the reporting date.
- Items are classified as commitments where the municipality commits itself to future transactions that will normally result in the outflow of resources.
- Contracts that are entered into before the reporting date, but goods and services have not yet been received are disclosed in the disclosure notes to the financial statements.
- Other commitments for contracts are to be non-cancellable or only cancellable at significant cost contracts should relate to something other than the business of the municipality.

1.17 Revenue from exchange transactions

General

Revenue, excluding value-added taxation where applicable, is derived from a variety of sources which include rates levied, grants from other tiers of government and revenue from trading activities and other services provided. Revenue is recognised when it is probable that future economic benefits or service potential will flow to the municipality and these benefits can be measured reliably, except when specifically stated otherwise.

When considering the probability of the future economic benefits that will flow to the entity, consideraton is given to the requirements as outlined in GRAP 1.

Revenue comprises the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for the sale of goods and services in the ordinary course of the municipality’s activities. Revenue is shown net of value-added tax, returns, rebates and discounts.

The municipality recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the municipality and when specific criteria have been met for each of the municipality's activities as described below. The amount of revenue is not considered to be reliably measurable until all contingencies relating to the sale have been resolved. The municipality bases its estimates on historical results, taking into consideration the type of customer, the type of transaction and the specifics of each arrangement. Furthermore services rendered are recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction at the reporting date.

Revenue from exchange transactions refers to revenue that accrued to the municipality directly in return for services rendered / goods sold, the value of which approximates the consideration received or receivable.

Revenue from non-exchange transactions refers to transactions where the municipality received revenue from another entity without directly giving approximately equal value in exchange. Revenue from non-exchange transactions is generally recognised to the extent that the related receipt or receivable qualifies for recognition as an asset and there is no liability to repay the amount.

Accounting Policies

1.17 Revenue from exchange transactions (continued)

Rendering of services

Service Charges

Service charges relating to solid waste, sanitation and sewage are levied in terms of the approved tariffs.

Service charges relating to electricity and water are based on consumption. Meters are normally read on a monthly basis and are recognised as revenue when invoiced. Where meters are not read monthly, provisional estimates of consumption, based on the consumption history, are made monthly when meter readings have not been performed. The provisional estimates of consumption are recognised as revenue when invoiced, except at year-end when estimates of consumption up to year-end are recorded as revenue without being invoiced. Adjustments to provisional estimates of consumption are made in the invoicing period in which meters have been read. These adjustments are recognised as revenue in the invoicing period. In respect of estimates of consumption between the last reading date and the reporting date, an accrual is made based on the average monthly consumption of consumers.

Service charges relating to refuse removal are recognised on a monthly basis in arrears by applying the approved tariff to each property that has improvements. Tariffs are determined per category of property usage, and are levied monthly based on the number of refuse containers on each property, regardless of whether or not all containers are emptied during the month.

Service charges from sewerage and sanitation are based on the type of service and the number of sewer connections on all developed property, using the tariffs approved by Council and are levied monthly.

In circumstances where services cannot readily be measured and quantified, a flat rate service charge is levied monthly on such properties.

Pre-paid Electricity

Revenue from the sale of electricity pre-paid meter cards are recognised at the point of sale. An adjustment for an unutilised portion is made at year-end based on the average consumption history.

Finance income

Interest earned on investments is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance on the time proportionate basis that takes into account the effective yield on the investment.
Interest earned on the following investments is not recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance:
- Interest earned on trust funds is allocated directly to the fund.
- Interest earned on unutilised conditional grants is allocated directly to the creditor: unutilised conditional grants, if the grant conditions indicate that interest is payable to the funder.

Tariff Charges

Revenue arising from the application of the approved tariff of charges is recognised when the relevant service is rendered by applying the relevant authorised tariff. This includes the issuing of licences and permits.

Income from Agency Services

Income from agency services is recognised on a monthly basis once the income collected on behalf of agents has been quantified. The income recognised is in terms of the agency agreement.

Sale of Goods (including Houses)

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when all the following conditions have been met:
- The municipality has transferred to the buyer the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods.
- The municipality retains neither continuing managerial involvement to the degree usually associated with ownership nor effective control over the goods sold.
- The amount of revenue can be measured reliably.
- It is probable that the economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the municipality.
- The costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably.

Accounting Policies

1.17 Revenue from exchange transactions (continued)
Rentals

Revenue from the rental of facilities and equipment is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease agreement.

Dividends

Dividends are recognised on the date that the municipality becomes entitled to receive the dividend in accordance with the substance of the relevant agreement, where applicable.

1.18 Revenue from non-exchange transactions

An inflow of resources from a non-exchange transaction, that meets the definition of an asset shall be recognised as an asset when it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the asset will flow to the municipality and the fair value of the asset can be measured reliably. The asset shall be recognised as revenue, except to the extent that a liability is also recognised in respect of the same inflow.

A present obligation arising from a non-exchange transaction that meets the definition of a liability will be recognised as a liability when it is probable that an outflow of economic benefit will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the amount can be made.

Rates and Taxes

Revenue from property rates is recognised when the legal entitlement to this revenue arises. Collection charges are recognised when such amounts are legally enforceable. Penalty interest on unpaid rates is recognised on a time proportion basis with reference to the principal amount receivable and effective interest rate applicable. A composite rating system charging different rate tariffs is employed. Rebates are granted to certain categories of ratepayers and are deducted from revenue.

Traffic Fines

Revenue from the issuing of fines is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefits or service potential will flow to the entity and the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably.

Fines consist of spot fines and summonses. There is uncertainty regarding the probability of the flow of economic benefits or service potential in respect of spot fines as these fines are usually not given directly to an offender. Further legal processes have to be undertaken before the spot fine is enforceable. In respect of summonses the public prosecutor can decide whether to waive the fine, reduce it or prosecute for non-payment by the offender.

Public contributions

Donations and funding are recognised as revenue to the extent that the municipality has complied with any of the criteria, conditions or obligations embodied in the agreement. Where the agreement contains a stipulation to return the asset, other future economic benefits or service potential, in the event of non-compliance to these stipulations and would be enforced by the transferor, a liability is recognised to the extent that the criteria, conditions or obligations have not been met. Where such requirements are not enforceable, or where past experience has indicated that the transferor has never enforced the requirement to return the transferred asset, other future economic benefits or service potential when breaches have occurred, the stipulation will be considered a restriction and is recognised as revenue.

Revenue from public contributions is recognised when all conditions associated with the contribution have been met or where the contribution is to finance property, plant and equipment, when such items of property, plant and equipment are brought into use.

Assets acquired in non-exchange transactions are measured at fair value in accordance with the Standards of GRAP.

Government Grants and receipts

Equitable share allocations are recognised in revenue at the start of the financial year if no time-based restrictions exist.

Accounting Policies

1.18 Revenue from non-exchange transactions (continued)
Conditional Grants and receipts

Conditional grants, donations and funding are recognised as revenue to the extent that the municipality has complied with any of the criteria, conditions or obligations embodied in the agreement. Where the agreement contains a stipulation to return the asset, other future economic benefits or service potential, in the event of non-compliance to these stipulations and would be enforced by the transferor, a liability is recognised to the extent that the criteria, conditions or obligations have not been met. Where such requirements are not enforceable, or where past experience has indicated that the transferor has never enforced the requirement to return the transferred asset, other future economic benefits or service potential when breaches have occurred, the stipulation will be considered a restriction and is recognised as revenue.

Government grants that are receivable as compensation for expenses or losses already incurred or for the purpose of giving immediate financial support to the municipality with no future related costs are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance in the period in which they become receivable.

Revenue is recognised when all conditions associated with the contribution have been met or where the contribution is to finance property, plant and equipment, when expenses are incurred to construct the items of property, plant and equipment.

Revenue from Recovery of Unauthorised, Irregular, Fruitless and Wasteful Expenditure

Revenue from the recovery of unauthorised, irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure is based on legislated procedures, including those set out in the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act No.56 of 2003) and is recognised when the recovery thereof from the responsible councillors or officials is virtually certain. Such revenue is based on legislated procedures.

1.19 Borrowing costs

The municipality capitalises borrowing costs incurred that are directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset as part of the cost of that asset only when the commencement date for capitalisation is on or after 1 July 2008, while all other borrowing costs incurred (including borrowing cost incurred on qualifying assets where the commencement date for capitalisation is prior to 1 July 2008) are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Performance for the financial year ending 30 June 2017 in accordance with the requirements of GRAP 5. To the extent that an entity borrows funds generally and uses it for the purpose of obtaining a qualifying asset, the entity shall determine the amount of borrowing costs eligible for capitalisation by applying a capitalisation rate to the expenditure on that asset. The capitalisation rate shall be the weighted average of the borrowing costs applicable to the borrowings of the entity that are outstanding during the period, other than borrowings made specifically for the purpose of obtaining a qualifying asset. The amount of borrowing costs that an entity capitalises during a period shall not exceed the amount of borrowing costs it incurred during that period.

The municipality ceases to capitalise borrowing costs when substantially all the activities necessary to prepare the qualifying assets for its intended use has been completed. Where the construction of the qualifying asset is completed in parts and each part is capable of being used while construction continues on other parts, the entity shall cease capitalising borrowing costs when it completes substantially all the activities necessary to prepare that part.

1.20 Comparative figures

Prior year comparatives

When the presentation or classification of items in the Annual Financial Statements is amended, prior period comparative amounts are reclassified. The nature and reasons for the reclassification are disclosed.

Budget Information

The annual budget figures have been prepared in accordance with the GRAP standard and are consistent with the accounting policies adopted by the Council for the preparation of these financial statements. The amounts are scheduled as a separate additional financial statement, called the Statement of Comparison of Budget and Actual amounts. Explanatory comment is provided in the notes to the annual financial statements giving firstly reasons for overall growth or decline in the budget and secondly motivations for over- or underspending on line items. The annual budget figures included in the financial statements are for the Municipality and do not include budget information relating to subsidiaries or associates. These figures are those approved by the Council at the beginning and during the year following a period of consultation with the public as part of the Integrated development plan. The budget is approved on an accrual basis by nature classification. The approved budget covers the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2019.

Accounting Policies

1.21 Unauthorised expenditure

Unauthorised expenditure is expenditure that has not been budgeted, expenditure that is not in terms of the conditions of an allocation received from another sphere of government, municipality or organ of state and expenditure in the form of a grant that is not permitted in terms of the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act No 56 of 2003). All expenditure relating to unauthorised expenditure is recognised as an expense in the statement of financial performance in the year that the expenditure was incurred. The expenditure is classified in accordance with the nature of the expense, and where recovered, it is subsequently accounted for as revenue in the statement of financial performance. Council will implement investigations on the unauthorised expenses. If a liable person has been identified and the expenditure is not condoned by the Council, it is treated as an asset until it is recovered or written off as irrecoverable.

1.22 Fruitless and wasteful expenditure

Fruitless and wasteful expenditure is expenditure that was made in vain and would have been avoided had reasonable care been exercised. All expenditure relating to fruitless and wasteful expenditure is recognised as an expense in the statement of financial performance in the year that the expenditure was incurred. The expenditure is classified in accordance with the nature of the expense, and where recovered, it is subsequently accounted for as revenue in the statement of financial performance. Council will implement investigations on the irregular expenses. If a liable person has been identified and the expenditure is not condoned by the Council, it is treated as an asset until it is recovered or written off as irrecoverable.

1.23 Irregular expenditure

Irregular expenditure is expenditure that is contrary to the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act No 56 of 2003), the Municipal Systems Act (Act No 32 of 2000), the Public Office Bearers Act (Act No 20 of 1998) or is in contravention of the Municipality's or Municipal Entities' supply chain management policies. Irregular expenditure excludes unauthorised expenditure. Irregular expenditure is accounted for as an expense in the Statement of Financial Performance in the period it occurred and where recovered, it is subsequently accounted for as revenue in the Statement of Financial Performance.Council will implement investigations on the irregular expenses. If a liable person has been identified and the expenditure is not condoned by the Council, it is treated as an asset until it is recovered or written off as irrecoverable.

1.24 Related parties

Individuals as well as their close family members, and/or entities are related parties if one party has the ability, directly or indirectly, to control or jointly control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial and/or operating decisions. Management is regarded as a related party and comprises the councillors, Executive Mayor, Mayoral Committee members, Municipal Manager, executive directors and all other managers reporting directly to the Municipal Manager or as designated by the Municipal Manager.

Related parties to management will be disclosed regardless if any transactions took place between the Municipality and the related parties. All transactions that took place between the Municipality and any related party will be disclosed in the financial statements at it's monetary value.

1.25 Events after reporting date

Events after the reporting date that are classified as adjusting events have been accounted for in the Annual Financial Statements. The events after the reporting date that are classified as non-adjusting events after the reporting date have been disclosed in the notes to the Annual Financial Statements.

1.26 Accumulated Surplus

Accumulated surplus is updated on a yearly basis with the net deficit or net loss, whichever is applicable for the financial period's results.

Accounting Policies

1.27 Non-current Assets held for sale

Initial Recognition

Non-current Assets and Disposal Groups are classified as held-for-sale if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. This condition is regarded as met only when the sale is highly probable and the asset (or disposal group) is available for immediate sale in its present condition. Management must be committed to the sale, which should be expected to qualify for recognition as a completed sale within one year from the date of classification.

Subsequent Measurement

Non-current Assets (and Disposal Groups) classified as held-for-sale are measured at the lower of their previous carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell.

A non-current asset is not depreciated (or amortised) while it is classified as held for sale, or while it is part of a disposal group classified as held for sale.

Interest and other expenses attributable to the liabilities of a disposal group classified as held for sale are recognised in surplus or deficit.

The gain or loss on the eventual sale of non-current assets held for sale is included in the Statement of Financial Performance as gain or loss on sale of assets. The gain or loss on the eventual sale of non-current assets held for sale, is calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the individual asset or the disposal group.

1.28 Grants-in-aid

The municipality transfers money to individuals, organisations and other sectors of government from time to time. When making these transfers, the municipality does not:
- receive any goods or services directly in return, as would be expected in a purchase or sale transaction;
- expect to be repaid in future; or
- expect a financial return, as would be expected from an investment.

These transfers are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance as expenses in the period that the events giving rise to the transfer occurred.

1.29 Value added tax

The Municipality is registered with SARS for VAT on the payments basis, in accordance with Sec15(2)(a) of the Value-Added Tax Act No 89 of 1991.

1.30 Treatment of administration and other overhead expenses

The costs of internal support services are transferred to the various services and departments to whom resources are made available.

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

Figures in Rand	2017	2016

2. Changes in accounting policy, estimates and errors

Changes in accounting policies that are effected by management have been applied retrospectively in accordance with GRAP 3 requirements, except to the extent that it is impracticable to determine the period-specific effects or the cumulative effect of the change in policy. In such cases the municipality shall restate the opening balances of assets, liabilities and net assets for the earliest period for which retrospective restatement is practicable.

Changes in accounting estimates are applied prospectively in accordance with GRAP 3 requirements. Details of changes in estimates are disclosed in the notes to the annual financial statements where applicable.

Correction of errors is applied retrospectively in the period in which the error has occurred in accordance with GRAP 3 requirements, except to the extent that it is impracticable to determine the period-specific effects or the cumulative effect of the error. In such cases the municipality shall restate the opening balances of assets, liabilities and net assets for the earliest period for which retrospective restatement is practicable. Refer to Note 43 to the Annual Financial Statements for details of corrections of errors recorded during the period under review.

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

3. New standards and interpretations

GRAP 34: Separate Financial Statements

The objective of this Standard is to prescribe the accounting and disclosure requirements for investments in controlled entities, joint ventures and associates when an entity prepares separate financial statements.

It furthermore covers Definitions, Preparation of separate financial statements, Disclosure, Transitional provisions and Effective date.

The effective date of the standard is not yet set by the Minister of Finance.

The municipality expects to adopt the standard for the first time when the Minister sets the effective date for the standard.

It is unlikely that the standard will have a material impact on the municipality's annual financial statements.

GRAP 37: Joint Arrangements

The objective of this Standard is to establish principles for financial reporting by entities that have an interest in arrangements that are controlled jointly (i.e. joint arrangements).

To meet this objective, the Standard defines joint control and requires an entity that is a party to a joint arrangement to determine the type of joint arrangement in which it is involved by assessing its rights and obligations and to account for those rights and obligations in accordance with that type of joint arrangement.

It furthermore covers Definitions, Joint arrangements, Financial statements and parties to a joint arrangement, Separate financial statements, Transitional provisions and Effective date.

The effective date of the standard is not yet set by the Minister of Finance.

The municipality does not envisage the adoption of the standard until such time as it becomes applicable to the municipality's operations.

It is unlikely that the standard will have a material impact on the municipality's annual financial statements.

GRAP 27 (as amended 2016): Agriculture

Amendments to the Standard of GRAP on Agriculture resulted from changes made to IPSAS 27 on Agriculture (IPSAS 27) as a result of the IPSASB’s Improvements to IPSASs 2015 issued in March 2016.

The most significant changes to the Standard are:

- IPSASB amendments: To define a bearer plant and include bearer plants within the scope of GRAP 17, while the produce growing on bearer plants will remain within the scope of GRAP 27. In addition to the changes made by the IPSASB, a consequential amendment has been made to GRAP 103 on Heritage Assets. The IPSASB currently does not have a pronouncement on this topic.

The effective date of the amendment is for years beginning on or after 01 April 2018.

The municipality expects to adopt the amendment for the first time in the 2018 annual financial statements.

It is unlikely that the amendment will have a material impact on the municipality's annual financial statements.

GRAP 21 (as amended 2016): Impairment of non-cash-generating assets

Amendments to the Standard of GRAP on Impairment of Non-cash Generating Assets resulted from changes made to IPSAS 21 on Impairment of Non-Cash-Generating Assets (IPSAS 21) as a result of the IPSASB’s Impairment of Revalued Assets issued in March 2016.

The most significant changes to the Standard are:

- IPSASB amendments: To update the Basis of conclusions and Comparison with IPSASs to reflect the IPSASB’s recent decision on the impairment of revalued assets.

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

3. New standards and interpretations (continued)

The effective date of the amendment is for years beginning on or after 01 April 2018.

The municipality expects to adopt the amendment for the first time in the 2018 annual financial statements.

It is unlikely that the amendment will have a material impact on the municipality's annual financial statements.

GRAP 26 (as amended 2016): Impairment of cash-generating assets

Amendments Changes to the Standard of GRAP on Impairment of Cash Generating Assets resulted from changes made to IPSAS 26 on Impairment of Cash-Generating Assets (IPSAS 26) as a result of the IPSASB's Impairment of Revalued Assets issued in March 2016.

The most significant changes to the Standard are:

- IPSASB amendments: To update the Basis of conclusions and Comparison with IPSASs to reflect the IPSASB's recent decision on the impairment of revalued assets.

The effective date of the amendment is for years beginning on or after 01 April 2018.

The municipality expects to adopt the amendment for the first time in the 2018 annual financial statements.

It is unlikely that the amendment will have a material impact on the municipality's annual financial statements.

GRAP 110 (as amended 2016): Living and Non-living Resources

Amendments to the Standard of GRAP on Living and Non-living Resources resulted from editorial changes to the original text and inconsistencies in measurement requirements in GRAP 23 and other asset-related Standards of GRAP in relation to the treatment of transaction costs. Other changes resulted from changes made to IPSAS 17 on Property, Plant and Equipment (IPSAS 17) as a result of the IPSASB's Improvements to IPSASs 2014 issued in January 2015 and Improvements to IPSASs 2015 issued in March 2016.

The most significant changes to the Standard are:

- General improvements: To clarify the treatment of transaction costs and other costs incurred on assets acquired in non-exchange transactions to be in line with the principle in GRAP 23; and To clarify the measurement principle when assets may be acquired in exchange for a non-monetary asset or assets, or a combination of monetary and non-monetary assets
- IPSASB amendments: To clarify the revaluation methodology of the carrying amount and accumulated depreciation when a living resource is revalued; To clarify acceptable methods of depreciating assets; and To define a bearer plant and include bearer plants within the scope of GRAP 17 or GRAP 110, while the produce growing on bearer plants will remain within the scope of GRAP 27

The effective date of the amendment is for years beginning on or after 01 April 2018.

The municipality expects to adopt the amendment for the first time in the 2018 annual financial statements.

It is unlikely that the amendment will have a material impact on the municipality's annual financial statements.

Directive 12: The Selection of an Appropriate Reporting Framework by Public Entities

Historically, public entities have prepared financial statements in accordance with generally recognised accounting practice, unless the Accounting Standards Board (the Board) approved the application of generally accepted accounting practice for that entity. "Generally accepted accounting practice" has been taken to mean Statements of Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (Statements of GAAP), or for certain entities, International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. Since Statements of GAAP have been withdrawn from 1 December 2012, public entities will be required to apply another reporting framework in the future.

The purpose of this Directive is to prescribe the criteria to be applied by public entities in selecting and applying an appropriate reporting framework.

The effective date of the standard is for years beginning on or after 01 April 2018.

Notes to the Annual Financial Statements

3. New standards and interpretations (continued)

The municipality expects to adopt the standard for the first time in the 2018 annual financial statements.

It is unlikely that the standard will have a material impact on the municipality's annual financial statements.